

# HAWAIIAN STAR.

SECOND SECTION

PAGES 9 TO 12.

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PAGES 9 TO 12

## REASONS FOR FEAR OF OUR FRUIT PESTS,—BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR DAMAGE FROM PARASITES

"A billion dollars a year is the cost to the United States of the various insect pests in the country, most of them imported from foreign lands," said Representative Ed Towse, who has been studying the past business since he became chairman of the House committee having to deal with such subjects. "At least that is the estimate made by Charles Lester Marlatt of the bureau of department of agriculture in the National Geographical Magazine."

Marlatt advocates some very strict legislation to keep out pests, and his article illustrates the attitude which California has taken toward Hawaii on account of the introduction here of the Mediterranean fly. It is in part as follows:

### Foreign Origin of Many of Our Insect Pests.

"Fully 50 per cent of the important injurious insect pests in this country are of foreign origin. Among these are the codling moth, the Hessian fly, the asparagus beetle, the hop-plum louse, the cabbage worm, the wheat-plum louse, oyster-shell bark louse, pea weevil, the Croton bug, the Angoumois grain moth, the horn fly or cattle, and in comparatively recent years have been introduced such important pests as the cotton-boll weevil, the San Jose scale, the gypsy and brown-tail moths into New England, the Argentine ant into New Orleans, and the alfalfa-leaf weevil into Utah."

"While it is true that certain classes of injurious insect pests, such as the house fly and other household insects which may be similarly carried in ships' cargo or in the packing of merchandise, have been imported, and still will be, in spite of any quarantine law, however rigid, it is essentially true that the great mass of the foreign insect enemies of orchards and forests have come in on nursery and ornamental stock, and might have been kept out, in large measure, if an efficient quarantine had been in operation."

"The codling moth, or apple worm, occasions a loss, in cost of spraying trees and injury to fruit, of \$16,000,000 a year; the San Jose scale, similarly in loss of product and cost of treatment of trees, \$10,000,000 a year; the Hessian fly, the most important enemy of wheat, probably causes an annual loss of \$50,000,000, and in some years this loss has reached the enormous total of \$100,000,000. The cost to this country of the cotton-boll weevil, from the very conservative estimate of Mr. W. D. Hunter, amounts to about \$25,000,000 a year. All these were imported."

"The Argentine ant is destroying citrus orchards in Louisiana, and has spread to the orange groves of Southern California; the alfalfa-leaf weevil, probably introduced on packing of nursery stock from Europe, has destroyed hundreds of fields of alfalfa in Utah, and is spreading to adjacent states."

"The gypsy and brown-tail moths in Massachusetts and portions of other New England states are now costing those states, in expenditures merely in efforts at control, not counting damage at all, upward of a million dollars a year. In addition to this, the national government is appropriating \$300,000 a year to aid in controlling these pests along the highways, and by this means check their more rapid

distribution. In spite of these efforts and this enormous expenditure, these insects are slowly spreading, and great damage is done yearly to woodlands, private grounds, and orchards. The dissemination of these two pests over the whole United States, as is extremely likely under present conditions, would entail a like cost throughout the country—a tremendous and unnecessary charge on our fruit and forest interests."

"Very careful estimates, based on crop reports and actual insect damage over a series of years, show that the loss due to insect pests of farm products, including fruit and live stock, now reaches the almost inconceivable total of one billion dollars annually. The larger percentage of this loss is due to imported insect pests, and much of it undoubtedly would have been saved if this country had early enacted proper quarantine and inspection laws."

### Danger of Additional Pests.

"Great as is the number of foreign insect pests already imported and established in the United States, there remain many others with equal capacity for harm, which, fortunately, have not yet reached our shores or crossed our borders; or, at most, have infested only a limited part of our domain."

"Our increasing business relations with China and other Oriental countries adds enormously to the risk of the importation of new pests. We know very little of the injurious insect pests of those countries, and particularly of China, but the importation of new stock in the last year or two, from China especially, has demonstrated the existence there of many pests which have not hitherto been known. The power of harm of these new pests is abundantly illustrated by the San Jose scale, which is one of the earliest of the Chinese insect pests to reach us, and undoubtedly came to this country with some ornamental nursery stock sent from north China."

"Among the known foreign insect fruit pests which it is very desirable to keep out of this country are the Morelos fruit worm, which is an important enemy of citrus fruits in certain parts of Mexico; the olive-fruit worm, which occurs throughout the Mediterranean countries where the olive is grown; the mango-seed weevil, which has been found in imported mango seed during the present year; several fruit-scale pests known to occur in China, Japan, and other Oriental countries, which have records for harm quite as great as the San Jose scale; the gypsy and brown-tail moth to regions in this country where they do not now occur, and many other equally dangerous insect enemies of fruit trees, forest trees, and farm crops, known to occur in foreign countries."

"In addition to the danger of importing those insect pests is the risk of bringing in new and dangerous plant diseases. Two illustrations of this danger only will be mentioned, but there are many others equally important. First may be noted a new disease of the potato, known as the 'potato wart,' which there is grave risk of establishing in this country. This disease, once in the soil, destroys the potato tuber and prevents the culture of this staple. The disease was

(Continued on page ten.)



HERR VON SCHOEN.

Herr Von Schoen, the eminent diplomat who represents Germany at Paris, is one of the best known foreign agents in the world and has recently shown his great abilities by the manner in which he avoided trouble between Paris and Berlin over the present conflict in Morocco. He is a close personal friend of Emperor William and has served in the Imperial Chancellor's department with marked success.

## HAWAIIAN SINGERS SERENADE THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

SACRAMENTO, June 1.—Under the urge of Island memories and the stir of their emotional temperament, the band of Hawaiian musicians who appear at the Pantages this week last night set out a serenading trip about the city and proceeded to weave the spell of the tropics about those whom they favored with their midnight melodies.

Among those serenaded was Governor Johnson, who invited the Hawaiian band in to enjoy refreshments with Secretary Al McCabe, the governor providing a "spread" for the singers.

and Leader Ellis of the musicians. The still, warm night carried the strains of song and instrumental melody for blocks, and many drowsy heads lifted from their pillows in momentary belief that they had suddenly been carried to the South Seas.

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## ARMY AND NAVY

The field officers' quarters and the six sets of company officers' houses that are being built at Fort Ruger, Diamond Head, under the supervision of Captain F. B. Edwards, constructing quartermaster, U. S. A., are progressing rapidly. The framework has joined the solid foundation laid. The cement stucco and roof, with interior finishings, will necessarily take a longer time. But thus far the building has made wonderful and successful progress. Captain Edwards does not allow grass to grow under his feet. It is probable that the officers of the Coast Artillery Corps, stationed at Fort Ruger, will eat their Thanksgiving dinner in their new sets of officers' quarters.

**A Change in Orders.**  
Unless new orders were issued, the first and third battalions of the Twentieth Infantry, now serving in the Philippines division, with station at the Cuartel de Espana Intramuros, Manila, P. I., did not leave their station on Thursday, the 15th, for this port, as was anticipated.

It was planned for the second battalion, Twentieth Infantry, at Fort Shafter, to join the two battalions of their regiment en route to the Coast early in July, but taking into consideration the six months' delay order, it is possible the members of the Kahuiki reservation will be here until the beginning of the new year.

**Major Walcutt Going.**

Major Charles C. Walcutt, Jr., who has recently reached his majority while serving in the Fifth Cavalry as troop commander of Troop P at Schofield Barracks, has been assigned in his new grade of rank to the Twelfth Cavalry. Regret is felt that the Fifth Horse is to soon lose Major and Mrs. Walcutt, Jr., from their line and the brigade post, where they are both universal favorites. Major and Mrs. Walcutt, Jr., will leave for the Coast on the Sheridan next month.

**General Bullis' Death.**  
Sad news has reached this military district of the death at the post hos-

pital of Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, of Brigadier General John L. Bullis, U. S. A., retired.

General Bullis was known throughout the service. During his long and bravely honorable military career he was always actively to be found in the front ranks whenever duty called or there was someone he could help with his kind heart and ever-ready purse. A widow and three daughters survive General Bullis, Mrs. Bullis being the eldest daughter of the late General John Withers of United States and Confederate armies fame. The youngest daughter, Octavia, is a student at the University of Texas, at Austin. Anita and Lydia Bullis are young daughters at home with their mother.

**Troops on the Border May Stay.**  
In conversation, an army officer just recently from the scene of patrolling the frontier of the Rio Grande and camp of maneuvers on the borderland of Texas and Arizona, said most impressively that in his opinion and observation of the unsettled condition of affairs there, that the United States troops would not be hastily sent back to their stations, or removed from the border river.

He said the immense value, merely in the convenient position of Uncle Sam's boys to the scene of trouble, has been a wonderful stay and influence for good on the disturbing elements, that could hardly be realized by people not actually near the count.

This officer continued by saying that he made no predictions, for the unexpected could always be looked for, but that a very wise ruling has gone forth from the War Department to the effect that all movements of troops or regiments, previously ordered, were to delay for six months before carrying out the orders given, from their respective dates.

It was a little feared that the worst was yet to come on the borderland, but taking the old French proverb, the expected will probably not happen.

## INDEPENDENCE OF PHILIPPINES IS WHAT ISLANDS' DELEGATES TO AMERICAN CONGRESS WORK FOR

By J. A. BRECKONS.

(Correspondence of The Star.)

WASHINGTON, June 5.—The Philippines will come in for a considerable share of attention at the hands of the next session of Congress if the number of bills and resolutions introduced or announced may be taken as an indication. One of the latest reports is that Representative Cline of Indiana will greatly modify his resolution providing for the independence of the islands. The modification, it is said, would gain much additional support and eventually work out the independence of the Philippines.

Representative Cox of Ohio has introduced a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for details as to what the maintenance of the islands has cost us. The figures are

guessed at as around a billion dollars, but until a report is made it will be impossible to reach anything like a reliable estimate. Democratic members contend that much of the increased naval appropriations have been caused by the Philippines, and assert that without the islands our military operations and expenses would be greatly reduced.

In an effort to develop public sentiment, the delegates from the Philippines, Benito Legarda and M. Quezon, have been making speeches before various bodies during the past few months, and are keeping up the work by appearing whenever opportunity offers. Mr. Quezon is now making a tour of New England commencing, lecturing on the islands and incidentally spreading the gospel of independence as he sees it.

## HOW THE PIONEER AVIATOR IN CHINA CAME TO HIS DEATH

North China Herald, May 13.—The pioneer of aviation in China, M. Rene Vallon, met death on the Race Course on Saturday in circumstances which have cast a deep gloom over the entire community.

Throughout the race meeting a visit from the aeroplane had been daily anticipated, but the weather was against flying. There was an improvement on Saturday, and it was announced that following upon the races there would be one of those aviation meetings which had been so popular at Kiangwan. At five o'clock all preparations had been completed at Kiangwan for the flight, and rising into the air M. Vallon set off for Shanghai. The afternoon was dull, with occasional glimpses of sunshine, and there was little wind stirring. Higher, probably, than he had ever flown before in this district, M. Vallon rose, until when above the railway station he is estimated to have been at least 1,000 feet up. From here he steered his course in a circle, taking a wide sweep, and approaching the Race Course from the northwest. By this time he had been observed in the Settlement and from every quarter eyes were focussed upon him.

The seventh race of the afternoon had just finished when those in the enclosure caught sight of the biplane approaching, and in a moment all interest in the winner had disappeared. Far above the heads of the throng Vallon came, certainly between 500 and 900 feet in the air, and traveling at a tremendous pace. The biplane has a speed of between seventy and eighty kilometers an hour, and it was a grand sight to see the machine speeding through space. Soon the whirr of the motor could be heard, and in a few moments he was sailing high over the Race Club.

**The Accident.**  
At this moment a great cheer rose from the crowd, every eye being fixed on the aeroplane with the gallant aviator sitting there quite cool and unmoved. In a line above the home straight he passed, then circled away to the south and round the track. Soon he was again over the Race Club, and in the meantime he had descended somewhat, but was still about 600 feet from earth. The picture was fascinating, and the crowd was thoroughly enjoying the spectacle, cheering ever and again, when suddenly there came a sickening sensation.

For a second time the aeroplane had flown along the home straight, but now when within fifty or a hundred yards of the turn it was observed to quiver. It seemed to descend a short distance rapidly, as if the aviator were planning down, then there was a slight cant to the right, followed by a heavy lurch to the left. For a moment it looked as if the aeroplane were to recover itself, but this was not to be. The machine hung for a second or two; then, the life plane swinging down and pointing to the ground, the great structure

crashed down. With increasing impetus as it neared the ground the machine struck with a horrid thud, the planes doubling up as if crushed by a sledge hammer. It was all over.

For a second or two the crowd stood motionless, horror-stricken at the spectacle, and then there was a wild rush for the ruined aeroplane. The police, followed by men and women, leaped the barricades and tore along the track as fast as their feet could carry them, all anxious to render assistance if that were still of any avail. There was, however, little hope that M. Vallon had survived the awful fall, and a glance showed that death had been instantaneous. The crowd surged around the wrecked plane, urged on by a morbid curiosity, and the few police on the scene had their work cut out to cope with them. There was only a sufficient number of police on the ground to look after the gates in the ordinary course, and they were much too few in number to keep the crowd back. Assistance was, however, obtained from a number of bluejackets who were present, and who, on being requested by the authorities, readily backed up the police in their efforts to maintain order. Terribly crushed by the fall, the body of the dead aviator was immediately laid on a stretcher, and as quickly as possible removed from the course. As it passed through the gate of the Race Club a huge crowd of Chinese assembled and proceeded to follow it to the mortuary. Fortunately the offer of a motor car was made at this juncture by Mr. H. S. Honigsberg, and the body was taken away in this.

**What Happened.**

The cause of the accident can, of course, not be stated with certainty, but it is more than probable that the currents of the air, treacherous in the extreme and more dangerous to the aviator than the currents of the sea to the navigator, were responsible for the tragedy. It was pointed out that the wind on Saturday was of a most uncertain quantity. One theory of the accident is that in rounding the bend M. Vallon was caught in an unexpected current, and descended somewhat to try to avoid it. It, however, swept the aeroplane off its balance and then the awful fall took place. The theory is also advanced that the current of air sweeping past it made what has been termed a "hole" in the air. This would immediately cause the nose of the plane to dip, and the propeller would then be driving the machine full speed to the earth. Whatever was the cause, this seems certain. The aeroplane went over on its side, and M. Vallon was flung out. He alighted on his feet, was flung over on his left side, and the shock to his heart caused instantaneous death. When picked up it was seen that the watch he wore at his wrist, now covered with earth and the face broken, had stopped at thirteen minutes past

(Continued on page eleven.)

## ALLIGATOR PEARS NOT AFFECTED

The local agents of the Matson Navigation Company are going to take immediate measures with the view of having the embargo placed on the alligator pear by the California authorities, removed.

A representative of the company said this morning that there was no reason why the alligator pear should be placed on the tabu list, as there was no pest which attacked it with the exception of the mealy bug, which only affected the leaves and branches. He said that the embargo would cost Honolulu alone thousands of dollars, and that the agents of the company

were going to do their utmost to have it removed.

A representative of the Island Fruit Company said that last year Wells, Fargo Company shipped the best part of 2,000 dozen pears away from here and that they expected to have shipped considerably more this season.

"The new restriction has killed the business dealer than a nail," was the way he put it.

A local fruit grower, commenting on the Mediterranean fly, said that it was at present useless for anyone to plant any kind of citrus plant here, as the fly would destroy the fruit without the shadow of a doubt.